

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-16

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 204129

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, SHUM

SUBJ: GOI RESTRICTIONS ON EMIGRATION

1. WE HAVE NOTED VARIOUS RECENT GOI STATEMENTS ABOUT PROPOSED RESTRICTIONS ON DEPARTURE FROM IRAN OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE RECEIVED ADVANCED EDUCATION OR TRAINING UNTIL THEY HAVE PAID FOR THEIR EDUCATION BY EXERCISING THEIR TALENTS IN IRAN. WE WOULD APPRECIATE WHATEVER PRECISE INFORMATION YOU CAN PROVIDE ON GOI IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE RESTRICTIONS. WHILE THIS IS CLEARLY INTERNAL IRANIAN MATTER, IT WILL HAVE EXTERNAL EFFECTS. FOR EXAMPLE AMCIT WIFE OF IRANIAN STUDENT MOHAMMAD GHAZI ASKAR HAS INFORMED HER CONGRESSMAN THAT HUSBAND, WHO SEEKING TO ADJUST TO PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS, RETURNED TO IRAN THIS SUMMER

AND HAS BEEN REFUSED EXIT VISA TO RETURN TO U.S. HE ALLEGES CAUSE OF REFUSAL IS POLICY AGAINST EMIGRATION OF TRAINED PEOPLE.

2. IF GOI IMPLEMENTING THIS POLICY, WE CAN EXPECT FURTHER CASES AFFECTING AMCIT SPOUSES. POLICY IS LIKELY TO COME TO ATTENTION OF US MEDIA AND LEAD TO UNFAVORABLE
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